

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 23 June 2003
 Name of applicant/court: The District Court at Manukau
 Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
 Title of Publication: Aching Slaves For A Ruthless Master
 Other Known Title(s): Aching Slaves For A Ruthless Master
 www.dvids.com Internet 10
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 Director(s): Not Stated
 Producer(s): Not Stated
 Publisher: Not Applicable
 Author(s): Not Applicable
 Format: Video Recording VHS/PAL
 Country of Origin: Not Stated
 Language(s): English

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Aching Slaves For A Ruthless Master	Running Time:	49.34
Trailers:	Nil	Running Time:	
		Total Running Time:	49.34

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The video recording entitled *Aching Slaves For A Ruthless Master* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The video recording contains a feature showing a man subjecting two women to a range of sadomasochistic activity. The women sometimes pose in a seductive and contrived manner possibly indicating that the scenario is pre-arranged and consensual. However, there is no other context to show that this is so and there is no dialogue in the feature.

The video recording tends to promote and support the infliction of extreme cruelty as outlined under s3(2)(f) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act). Some of the sadomasochistic activity shown amounts to acts of extreme cruelty. Both women are restrained and presented as being at the man's mercy. The depictions are salacious and occur in conjunction with the man subjecting the women to other sexual activity. The feature focuses on the suffering and lack of control of the women and sexualises these elements with the result that the video recording presents subjecting women to acts of extreme cruelty as sexually arousing.

As the video recording meets criteria listed in s3(2) of the FVPC Act, it is therefore deemed to be objectionable. A classification of "objectionable" places a limit on the right to the freedom of expression as set out in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, in relation to this video recording, the classification is considered to be a reasonable limit prescribed by law that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

OFLC No: 202008